

Dana Durand, Tariff Official

CPYRGHT

Dana Durand, 88, a U. S. Tariff Commissioner from 1935 until his retirement in 1952, died yesterday at Doctors Hospital. He lived at 3613 Norton place nw.



The Washington Post

DANA DURAND

Described as "the classical public servant, the non-political expert," Mr. Durand spent most of his 50 years of government service in the upper echelons.

A statistician by training, he was in turn a trust-buster under Theodore Roosevelt, a Census Bureau director when he was 38, a World War I Hoover welfare aide, a Commerce Department editor, and chief economist and then member of the Tariff Commission.

He was proud of these words of censure from John D. Rockefeller, spoken during an anti-trust action against Standard Oil:

"You're an able young man, Mr. Durand. You no doubt are doing what you consider your duty, but you don't realize how much harm you're doing in the world."

"Perhaps I was," Mr. Durand later mused.

For his extensive and novel use of IBM punchcards as Director of the 1910 census, Mr. Durand was the target of a \$1 million patent suit brought by the inventor of the process. The suit was dropped. He was credited with forming the first public relations branch of a governmental department while at Census.

Two years of work with the U. S. Food Administration during World War I were followed by two as adviser to the food minister of Poland. Herbert Hoover brought his aide into the Commerce Department when he became its secretary.

Ostensibly appointed as a Republican to the Tariff Commission, Mr. Durand largely took the low tariff tack of the Democrats. His particular interest was reciprocal trade treaties and he helped negotiate the first of these in the 30s, with Canada.

Survivors include three sons, Dana and Bennett of Washington and Eric of Cambridge; a daughter, Mary C. Bancroft of Arlington; a brother and a sister here, G. Harrison Durand and Mrs. Henry W. Edgerton, and a brother in Boston, Albert Durand.

The funeral will be at 2 p. m. Friday at the Cleveland Park Congregational Church.